

Message Text

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15

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DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:TJCHEAVNER:LRR

APPROVED BY EA - MONTEAGLE STEARNS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187510

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, VS, ID

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN RELATIONS WITH GVN

REF: A. SAIGON 14519; B. JAKARTA 9677

1. IN SEPTEMBER 20 LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR THAJEB, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY STEARNS RAISED QUESTION OF GVN/GOI DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND URGED THAT GOI ESTABLISH EMBASSY IN SAIGON. STEARNS NOTED GVN NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT, IMPORTANCE OF OFFSETTING RECOGNITION PRG BY COMMUNISTS AND SOME NON-ALIGNED STATES, AND USEFULNESS GOI EMBASSY SAIGON IN FACILITATING ICCS MATTERS. ALSO POINTED OUT THAT RECOGNITION GVN WOULD BE LOGICAL FOLLOW-UP TO RECENT GOI RECOGNITION ROK, AND IN KEEPING INDONESIA'S NON-ALIGNED IMAGE.

2. THAJEB NOTED INDONESIA HAS AMBASSADOR IN SAIGON, ICCS CHIEF DHARSONO, AND THAT GOI RELATIONS WITH GVN VERY GOOD. HE COMMENTED OBLIQUELY ON IMPORTANCE BUILDING UP GOOD RELATIONS WITH DRV, IMPLYING THAT ESTABLISHMENT GOI EMBASSY IN SAIGON WOULD REDUCE GOI INFLUENCE WITH HANOI, BUT ENDED BY SAYING HE WOULD MENTION OUR CONCERN TO MALIK WHEN MALIK

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ARRIVES IN NEW YORK FOR UN SESSION.

3. WE UNDERSTAND AMBASSADOR GALBRAITH'S RESERVATIONS ABOUT PUSHING GOI (REF B) BUT BELIEVE THAT EVEN-HANDED APPROACH BY GOI NEED NOT DETRACT FROM INDONESIAN LEVERAGE IN HANOI, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW FRENCH PRECEDENT. ACCORDINGLY, IN LIGHT OUR CONVERSATION WITH INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR AND GOI RECOGNITION SOUTH KOREA, SUGGEST JAKARTA FOLLOW UP BY RAISING MATTER IN LOW KEY WITH APPROPRIATE GOI OFFICIALS WHEN OPPORTUNITY ARISES. RUSH

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